

Steppenwolf

A JOURNAL OF POETRY AND OPINION

editor Philip Boatright

26 Oct. 71

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associate Miss Jean Shannon

Dear Hal,

Sorry to be such a poor correspondent.. but have been hard pressed at hospital and with trying to start production of Steppen #5. New printer, very likely photo offset this time - rather than now too expensive letter press. But everything still unresolved - no printer yet contracted, either.

Speaking of printers/publishers - I was sorry to hear of your experience re; FRAME-UP. But you know, Hal, the thing I can't seem to really grasp is why? I mean, isn't it in a publisher's interest to try his best to sell a title he himself has brought out? Weird as hell, experienced like one you had - and it happens to other writers as well. I don't get it.

Amused that you picked up the bit of testimony by pub. of Omaha World-Herald. Listen, my friend - the W-H still thinks Warren Harding

is alive & well in Washington.... (Among the locals here, the paper is always called "the Weird-Herald" — and so it is.) the only daily in Omaha, as you perhaps know. Sure, we get the news... or some of it... or some kinds ... or.

Hent off? A New Yorker so far as I know, but I've never met him. White, but prides himself (it seems to) on his emotional rapport with blacks especially jazz musicians. Long time writer (critic) on contemporary jazz — now writes an occasional novel, I believe, and also a kind of hip (?) social commentator. I know him only by reputation... a bit too noisy for my personal taste. But what's his beef with you?

"Ochie" Middle Hill opaque to us — but I now think you are probably right in believing K.T. did not author it. And for same reason you give

Must go, more later —
take care of yourself,

Reid (Jean)